

IMPLUVIUM OF LIGHT

A large cube is built on top of a podium flanked by two courtyards.

The parking areas, archives and Data Processing Center are accommodated in this podium. Offices are arranged inside the cube on seven floors around the central interior courtyard. The cube was constructed on a 3 x 3 x 3m grid of reinforced concrete that in the roof serves as a light-gathering mechanism, the central theme of this building. The two facades to the south operate as a "brise-soleil" and, filtering this powerful light, illuminate the areas of open offices. The two facades to the north, serving the individual offices, receive the homogeneous and continuous light of this orientation and are closed to the exterior by means of a stone and glass cladding.

The central interior courtyard, a true "impluvium of light", gathers the solid sunlight through the skylights and reflecting it on the alabaster surfaces of the walls of the dihedron open to the south increases the illumination of the open offices to the dihedron facing north. The roof rests on four huge columns of exposed concrete. Functionally, the building is compact, flexible and simple.

In short, it is a concrete and stone box that traps the sunlight inside in order to serve the functions carried out within this "impluvium of light".

IMPLUVIUM DE LUZ

Se propone un gran volumen semicúbico que sirva de referencia para esa nueva parte de la ciudad.

Para recoger la pendiente del terreno se crea un gran basamento sobre el que se asienta una pieza cúbica. En este podio se resuelven aparcamientos, archivos y Centro de Proceso de Datos (C.P.D.). La caja cúbica emergente, se construye con una trama de hormigón armado de 3 x 3 x 3 m que sirve de mecanismo para recoger la luz, tema central de esta arquitectura. Las dos fachadas a sur funcionan a modo de "brise-soleil" e iluminan, matizando esa luz potente, las zonas de oficina abierta. Las dos fachadas a norte, sirviendo a las oficinas individuales, reciben la luz homogénea y continua propia de esa orientación y se cierran al exterior, mediante una plementería de piedra y vidrio.

El patio central interior, verdadero "impluvium de luz", recoge la luz sólida del sol a través de los lucernarios y, reflejándola en los paramentos de alabastro, aumenta la iluminación de las oficinas abiertas. Funcionalmente el edificio es de una gran compacidad, flexibilidad y sencillez.

En resumen, se trata de una caja de hormigón y piedra que atrapa la luz del sol en su interior para servir a las funciones que se desarrollan dentro de ese "impluvium de luz".

ALBERTO CAMPO BAEZA, ARCHITECT

CAJA GRANADA SAVINGS BANK, GRANADA (SPAIN) 2001



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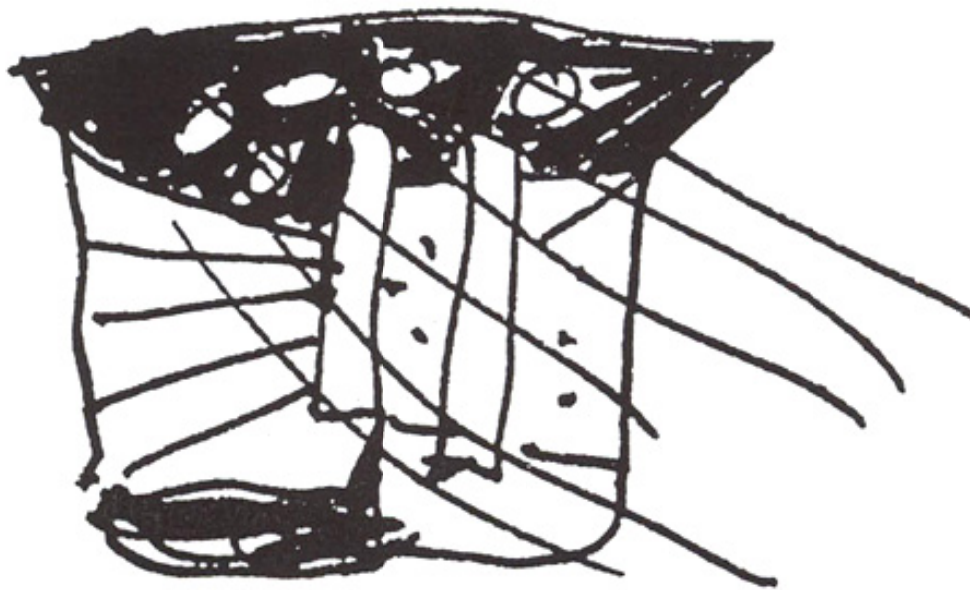
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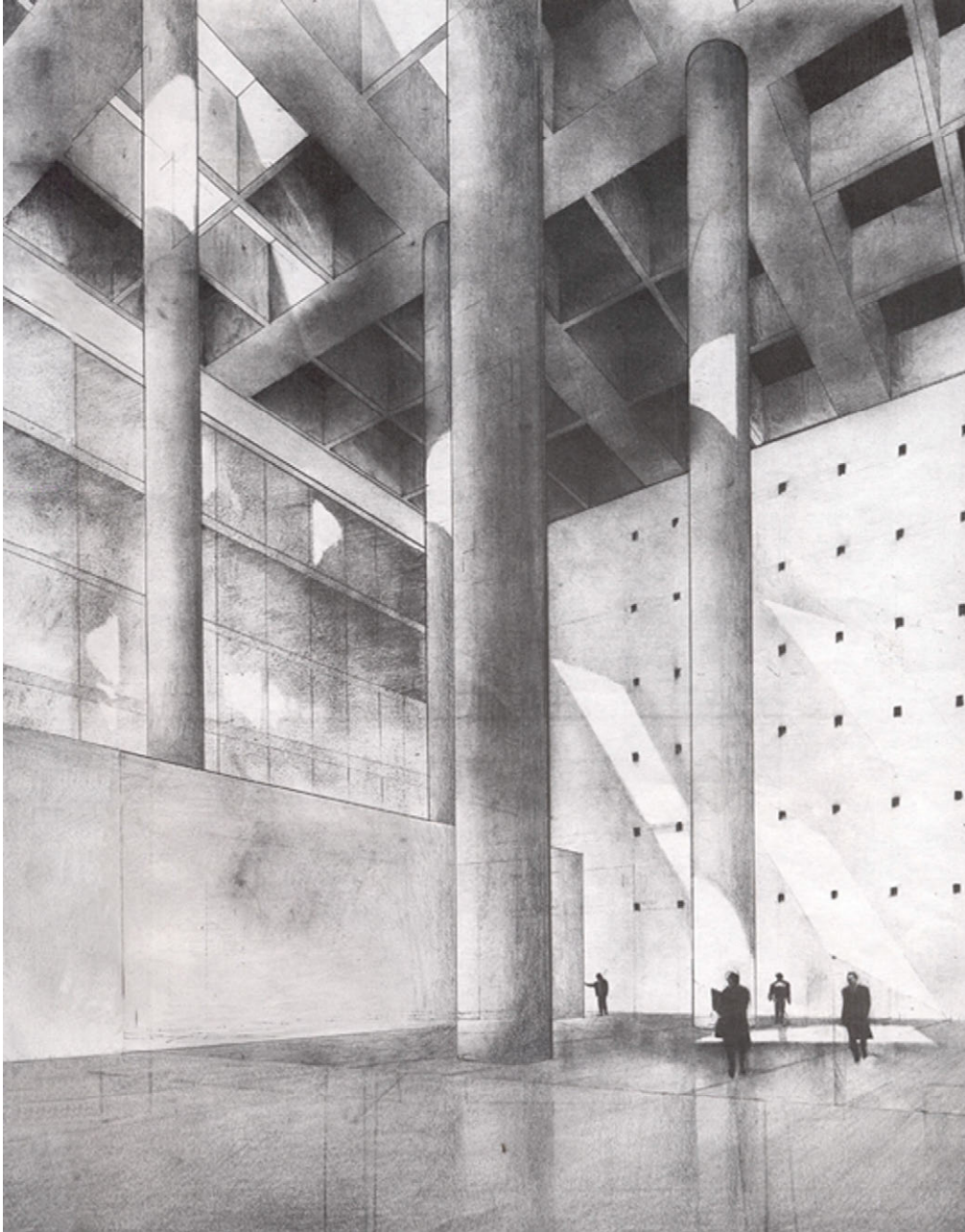
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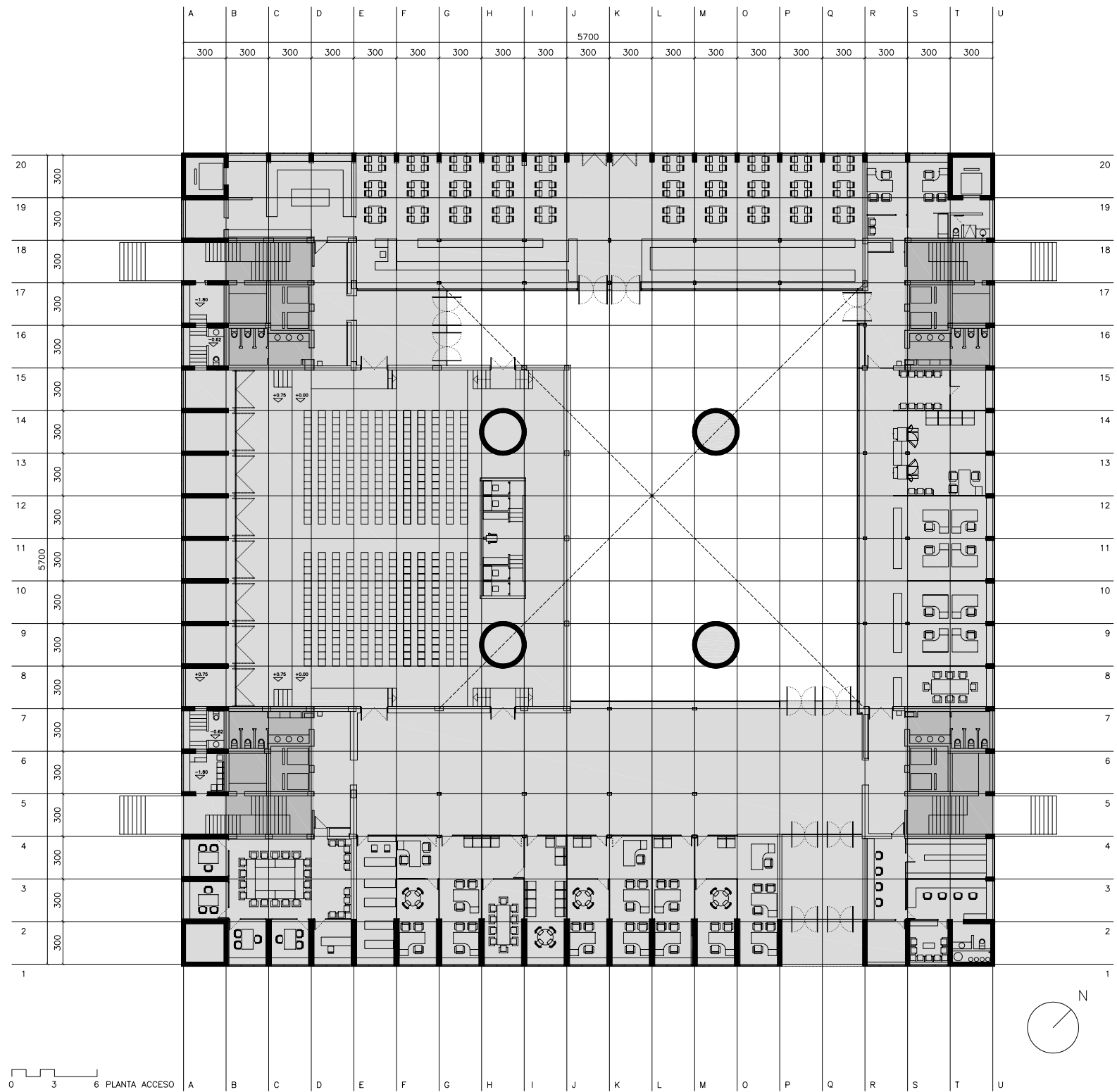
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